

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending and rejected. Claims 1-9 and 11-13 are being amended. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-21 are now pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In section 2, the Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 USC § 112 as being indefinite. Applicant has canceled claim. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot.

In section 3, the Examiner objected to claim 7 as containing a misspelling of the word "sith." Applicant has amended the word to read "with."

In section 4, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8-10, 14, 15 and 17 under 35 USC § 102(b) over Roberts. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled. Accordingly, this rejection now applies only to claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 17. Roberts discloses a system for providing speech detection and word recognition. Roberts provides a system that generates a background amplitude level as "a moving average, which is repeatedly recalculated and repeatedly used to alter the relative amplitude of the audio signal and the detection thresholds." (See Abstract.)

First, as the Examiner notes in section 5, Roberts does not teach using a signal to activate a transmitter. Each of independent claims 1, 4, 9 and 13 now require, similarly, a transmitter activated by an activation signal.

Second, Roberts teaches using a "moving average" to generate thresholds. Each of independent claims 1, 4, 9 and 13 now require that the reference signal be adjusted when, for example with reference to claim 1, "there is a lack of a transition between the presence of the signal of interest in the input signal and the absence of the signal of interest in the input signal for a predetermined time period." By not using a moving average, computations are simplified, costs are reduced, and power is saved. Support can be found on page 13 lines 3-16 (which describes the compute-intensive nature, high cost and high power consumption of echo-cancellers), and page 17 lines 15-19 (which describes that the timer is re-initialized each time the

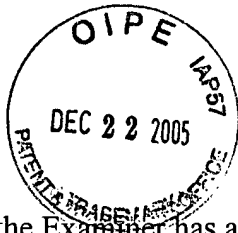
signal power is greater than the reference power indicating the presence of speech and a transmission condition).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 17 are patentable over Roberts and respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claims 5-6, 11-13, 16 and 18-21 under 35 USC § 103 as obvious over Roberts in view of Basburg-Ertem (Basburg). Basburg teaches a technique for integrated echo cancellation and noise reduction for fixed subscriber terminals. Specifically, the Examiner cites only language in paragraph 22 of Basburg, which in relevant part states, "As illustrated in Fig. 2, the noise reduction unit 16 uses the output of the voice activity detector (VAD) 32, which is an element primarily intended for the implementation of the discontinuous transmission (DT) mode of the codec."

However, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Roberts nor Basburg discloses requiring determining when, for example with reference to claim 1, "there is a lack of a transition between the presence of the signal of interest in the input signal and the absence of the signal of interest in the input signal for a predetermined time period."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5-6, 11-13, 16 and 18-21 are patentable over Roberts in view of Basburg and respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

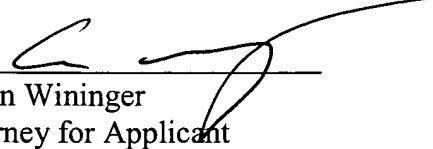


PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 36992.00137

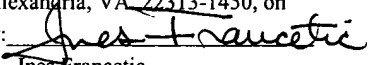
If the Examiner has any questions or needs any additional information, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 20, 2005
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.
600 Hansen Way
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1043
Telephone (650) 856-6500
Facsimile (650) 843-8777

By 
Aaron Wininger
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 45,229

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on
Date: December 20, 2005 By: 
Ines Francetic

PALOALTO/89629.1